



"Water Supply Assessment"

Ronald Buentemeier
Vice President – General
Manager
F. H. Stoltze Land & Lumber
892-7005



What water supply problems are you currently experiencing?

- A. Irrigation
- B. Population vs. Residential
- c. Appropriations vs. Mean Monthly Flow

A: IRRIGATION

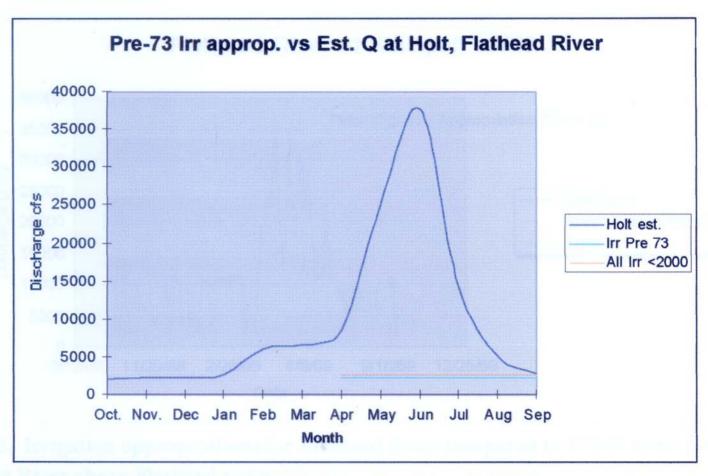


Figure 4. Irrigation Appropriations (76LJ) for Pre-73 and <2000 compared to estimated mean monthly discharge at Holt (head of Flathead Lake).

B: Population vs. Residential

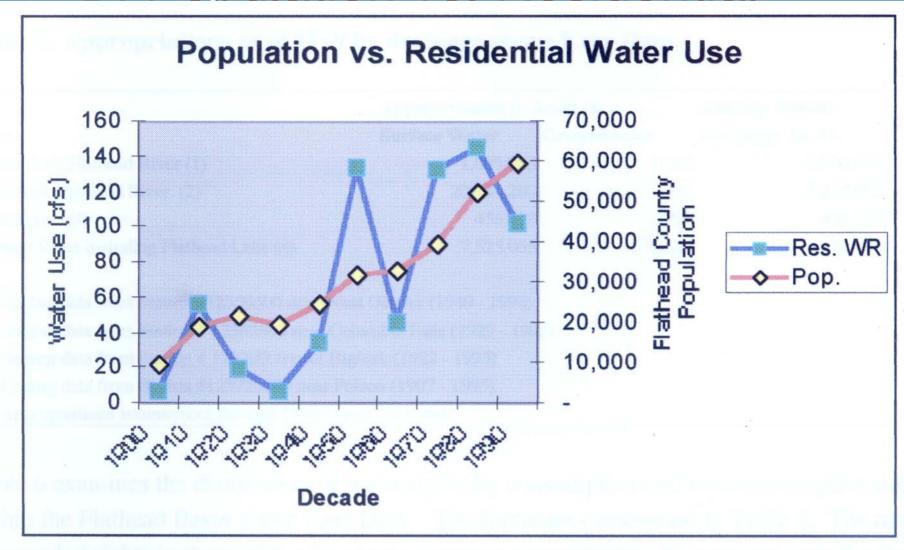


Figure 8. Domestic water use in 76LJ compared to Flathead County population.

C: Appropriations vs. Mean Monthly Flow

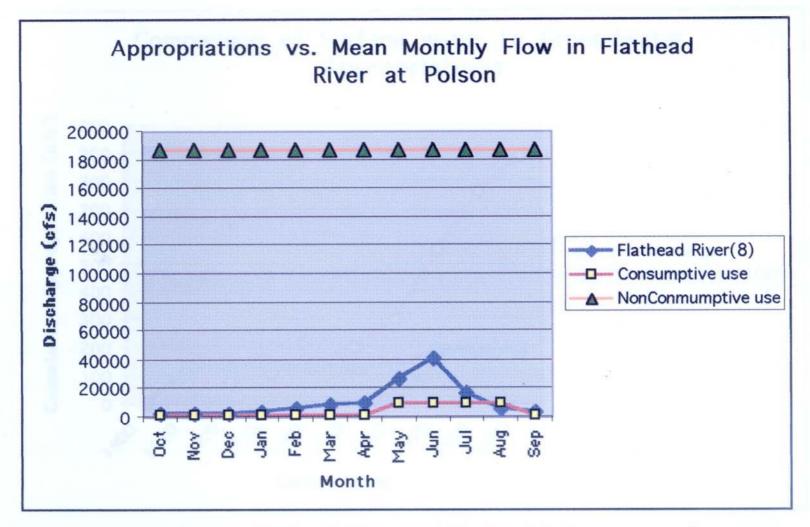


Figure 12. Appropriations in Flathead River and Flathead Lake compared to mean monthly flows near Polson.

Current Conditions

- Unallocated water exists in all four basins in the Flathead.
- Increase appropriations with increase in population.
 - City of Kalispell, 30% consumptive use
- Correlation between allocated and actual is unknown.
 - We do know that Avista water right exceeds Flathead Flow except for a few days each year.
- Domestic appropriations are about 2 times that of agriculture. (in 2000)
- > Allocations dramatically increased after 1970.

What water supply problems do you foresee over the next 50 years?

- A. Agricultural irrigation will decrease while recreational irrigation will increase.
- B. Domestic use will increase
- c. Vegetation use.





How Many Gallons of Water to Create 1 pound of wood?

- A. 200,000 gallons?
- B. 100,000 gallons?
- c. 50,000 gallons?
- D. 10,000 gallons?

ANSWER

90,000 LBS OF WATER!
10,843 GALLONS
TO MAKE ONE POUND OF WOOD.

Waddell Valley watershed in Northern California

- > 25 sq. miles
- > Clearcut and burned in 1900
- > 1930 began to recover
- > 2000 fully revegetated
- Mean dry season discharge corrected for rainfall is a <u>fraction</u> of what it was in 1930
- Similar results were found in Massachusetts in Quabbin Reservoir Watershed.

Other Interesting Facts

- A medium sized tree (40-50 feet tall) will take 10,000 gallons (83,000 lbs) of water from the soil in a growing season.
- A tree uses 55 lbs of water to make 100 pounds of cellulose, the main constituent of wood, but it evaporates more than 90,000 pounds of water in the process.
- ➤ A study done by the Baltimore City Watershed wherein young pine trees were planted on a bare watershed the annual surface water was reduced by 283,000 gallons per acre per year (which is equivalent to 13.3 inches of precipitation per year).
- Ecologists report that the anadromous fish habitat improves almost <u>linearly</u> with stream flow up to the level limited by the overflow of the stream banks.

How to address these problems

- A. Population increases
 - Encourage all types of conservation from initial use to recycling.
- B. With less agriculture, we will see more water for a **short** period of time.
- c. Use by vegetation
 - Management of forests with control of stocking.

